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Group Art Unit: 2832

Remarks

Claims 1-30 were in the application prior to the last examination and they remain in the application, as amended. By the present amendments, Applicants have canceled claims 2 and 18, and have amended claims 1, 3-6, 17, 19, and 30. In addition, the specification is amended to render it consistent with the amended claims. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments. Further examination and consideration of all claims is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Interview

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the courtesy of the Examiner in granting the interview held by telephone with the undersigned on December 21, 2004. In the interview, various issues, claims, and prior art references were discussed. But of relevance to this response, the Examiner agreed that claims 2 and 6 are patentable over RU 2082245 C1. The Examiner asked if Applicants wished to incorporate the limitations of claim 2 into claim 1 to achieve allowance. The undersigned declined at the time, pending consultation.

Restriction

Claims 5, 9, 10, 12-14, 16-19, and 22-29 were withdrawn from examination in the last action as being drawn to a non-elected species with no generic or linking claim. Applicants request further consideration of all claims because at least claims 1 and 30 are both generic to all claimed embodiments.

Applicants restate and incorporate herein the arguments set forth in their previously filed response to the restriction requirement, which arguments were not addressed by the Examiner in the present office action. Since at least claims 1 and 30 are generic, the withdrawn claims should properly be reconsidered.

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Claims Rejections Under §35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 4, 8, 11 and 15 stand rejected under §35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as having an inadequate written description. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

First of all, claims 4, 8, 11 and 15 were in the application as originally filed. The subject matter of the claims constitutes part of the disclosure as filed. Secondly, paragraph [0050] describes a primary winding 18 about one or both branches B of the respective window 14. Paragraph [0052] describes a secondary winding 20 about one or both legs 16 of the respective window 14 and/or the branches B of the window. Third, Fig. 1 discloses a primary winding 18 about both branches B of a window 14, and a secondary winding 20 about one leg 16. Fig. 3 discloses a primary winding 18 about upper and lower branches B, and a secondary winding 20 about a middle branch B.

It is difficult to see how the specification does not reasonably convey to one ordinarily skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed. The invention claimed in claims 4, 8, 11 and 15 is believed to be fully supported by an adequate written description.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 11, 15, and 20-21 stand rejected under §35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. According to the Examiner, the term "substantially" in claims 1 and 30 is a relative term. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The term "substantially" is not relative. It is an adverb meaning "to a great extent or degree." *WordNet* ® 2.0, © 2003 Princeton University. The fact that it may not identify a precise value to the term it modifies does not render the claim definite.

Nevertheless, the rejection is moot. In Applicants' amendments to claims 1 and 30, the term has been removed. The claims as amended are not indefinite under §35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims Rejections Under §35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 6-7, and 30 stand rejected under §35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by RU 2082245 C1. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of now canceled claim 2. In accord with the Examiner's position during the aforementioned interview, it is believed that claim 1 is now patentable over the cited reference. More specifically, RU 2082245 C1 does not disclose a primary winding wound about a branch or a leg of a corresponding window. The windings 3, 7 appear to extend over the ends of the respective toroidal magnetic circuits 1, 5. In any event, in the RU 2082245 C1 device, magnetic flux will not circulate about the slots 2 and 6. The non-magnetic gasket 4 will interrupt any magnetic flux circulation.

Claims 6 and 30 have been amended to include the same distinguishing structure and they are thus patentable over RU 2082245 C1 for the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Claims Rejections Under §35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 4, 8, 11, 15, and 20-21 stand rejected under §35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over RU 2082245 C1 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,177,460 to Dyanchand et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4 and 20-21 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 that is now believed to be patentable. Claim 4 is therefore patentable for the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable. Claims 8, 11, and 15 depend directly or indirectly from claim 6 that is now believed to be patentable. Claims 8, 11, and 15 are therefore patentable for the same reasons that claim 6 is patentable.

Other claims

It is noted that of the claims not previously considered, claims 5 and 22-29 all depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore patentable for the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable. Claims 9, 10, 12-14, and 16 all depend from claim 6 and are therefore patentable for the same reasons that claim 6 is patentable. Claim 17 has been amended to include the same subject matter that renders claims 1, 6, and 30 allowable over the art of record. Claim 17 is therefore believed to be patentable for the same reasons that claims 1, 6 and 30 are patentable.

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Moreover, claim 19 depends from claim 17 and is therefore patentable for the same reasons that claim 17 is patentable. Claim 18 is canceled.

Conclusion

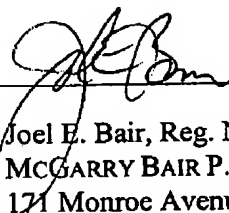
Claims 1, 3-17 and 19-30 are all believed to be patentable. Early notice of allowability is respectfully requested. Any questions concerning the foregoing can be addressed to the undersigned..

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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